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SOURCE Bashkimi.

ARTISANS' COOPERATIVES GROW

In Albania, there are today 131 artisan cooperatives, or three times more than in 1946. There are 6,670 members, of whom 20 percent are women. Altogether the cooperatives turn out 368 different products. During the first 3 months of 1951, 50 new types of articles went into production. Among the most important of the new articles are cases for sporting arms, cigarette lighters, carpenters' planes, rope, bicycles, perambulators, sacks, blouses, ~~rugs~~, table and bed covers, etc.

At the Tirana fez-making cooperative, during the first 3 months of this year, production of a new type of felt was begun for use on the machinery of the Stalin Textile Plant and the Maliq sugar factory.

The members of the Association of Tirana Cooperatives made the best showing with 23 new articles and the organization in Korce was next with 16 new items.

Mechanization has aided this progress. During the first 3 months of 1951, a total of 41 new machines and electric motors have been installed in the different cooperatives. The wood-working cooperatives in Tirana and Elbasan have also installed semiautomatic equipment.

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